

A. H. Kelley
Letters



Session for UMAA guest

Current catalog: Bentley Historical Library about... | Search Query: kw: kelley a h | Results: 16 | Record: 14



<< PREVIOUS Jump to: 1 11 NEXT >>



Title A. H. Kelley letters, 1864-1876.

Author Kelley, A. H.

Description 11 items.

Biography/History Resident of Brighton, Michigan.

Summary Five letters from his son, Charles A. Kelley relating to his Civil War experiences in Company I, Ninth Michigan Infantry; also two personal letters and three business letters.

Subjects Brighton (Mich.)

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Subjects (Name) United States. Army. Michigan Infantry Regiment, 9th (1861-1865).
Company I.

Contributors Kelley, Charles A., b. 1840.

Holdings Location: BENTLEY HISTORICAL LIBRARY (Non-Circulating,
Closed Stacks)

Call No: 851556 Aa 1

<< PREVIOUS Jump to: 1 11 NEXT >>



Dear Father.

Coldwater Dec 9th 64

I arrived in Coldwater last night and find that the Regiment expects to leave here soon probably the first of next week. I don't know as there is any way for me to get home. I am recommended for a recruiting commission if I get it. I shall be home for some time. The Regiment is not near full yet they are coming in all the time. I intend to (stick if I stay). The Quarter Master wants me but I presume the Colonel will take me when I get back, he has gone to Katchewanong and is Provost Marshal General. I send herewith \$20.00 I have not got my local bounty yet (expect \$200.00) nor pay for my Recruit (\$90.00). I wish you could come down here this week. Love to "School Ma'am".

Yours Charles Kelley

Camp 9th Mich Inf 9th
 Reserve Brigade D.C.
 Near Kenesaw Mt Ga July 9th / 64

My Dear Father

Your kind letter was received this day the 3rd one since I was home I am glad to hear your health remains good in these hard times. I should judge that the present season in Michigan has been very unfavorable for farming, and I suppose but little will be raised in your section. I trust you will not work hard enough to injure your health when it is useless. The farm will lose nothing by laying still.

I had heard that Johnny Prosser was wounded but did not hear he was dead. Was surprised to hear of his death. Our neighborhood is suffering a good deal in this war. Now looking we were all going in the 9th. The boys here are well, and having good times. I am enjoying good health and get along finely considering the Campaign. Have just returned from Chattanooga where I went for our Quartermaster. Thousands of Sick and wounded are being sent into that place and immense trains are coming to the front with Supplies. Our present camp is about two or three miles from Marietta not far from the Kenesaw Mountains held by the rebels. A continual fire is kept up between the works of the Enemy and our own and nearly every night we have a charge on one side or the other in many places the works are but a few rods apart.

I think a flank movement is progressing which I hope will place us in possession of Atlanta if the work of the present Campaign is well done little of the Rebels will be left. and I hope the people of the north will give it the finishing stroke this fall by electing old "Ab" all the Rebels hope for is the election of some man who will aid them. We have had no pay since last fall and will not be apt to get any until the march is over. then I shall send home considerable. You did not say anything about that bond. - the Supervisor's name is J C Lamb Dryden, Leafeur Co Mich. and have you got that \$90. or from Detroit? I presume Pete is playing off his time is not out until October and unless he is at home properly he will have to serve it some time.

I suppose the Wood Crop is the best you have this year. Give my love to Mr Comely's family and other neighbors. I will try in future to write often and hope to hear from you very soon.

I remain Your affectionate Son
 Chas W Keller

Direct as before

5
Reserve Brigade Dept Sumter's
Atlanta Ga Aug 15th 64

Dear Father

I have just returned from Nashville to day. Where I have been on business for our Col. And found your letter awaiting my return. I should have written immediately after our "Big Raid" which caused the downfall of Atlanta had I had time. We had quite a time And saw some very fine Country. Our Army met the Rebels near Donelson and gave them a sound thrashing And Mr Hood evacuated Atlanta in a hurry. We at once returned to the City And went into Camp.

Atlanta is a very important place as yet I have not had time to see it only as I have passed through. The Rebels took off every thing of importance I presume we will remain here for some time until the Army is well rested then for Macon or some other point of interest. They are furloughing a large part of the

Army now. At present I can not leave as we have so much work to do.

And I don't know as it would pay at all

I was offered a Sergeancy if I would return to the Company but I declined I am better situated now than an officer of a Regiment Have our Office nice house every thing very comfortable I think I can get a detail at Head Quarters where I will draw extra pay if I choose. But the Officer I am now with is one of the best fellows in the world & I do not like to leave him. I intend to remain on detail as long as I can unless something better is offered but I have not done any soldiering of account in two years. My health was never better And I must own I would give preference to this Climate in Comparison to any I ever saw Summer I suppose with you is well over and the leaves are showing the approach of stern winter - here there is no apparent change but it is glorious for our work

Pete is back "muling and puking" as before and will be discharged in a few days. Let him go the sooner such men leave the service the better. Any punishment would only be an extra cost

7

I hear Harrison, Talmore and Earnest are coming for a year it is well. And as much as any family ought to do, to much. - Henry and Isaac are good soldiers and have always been so. I will let Emma and the whole family in fact - are sick enough of Pitt. Let them look sharp some good looking chap will carry off what is no loss to her. I guess the bond will come all right if not let me know. for Our Colonel is well acquainted with the man and say they are responsible. The money in Detroit is all right of course.

The Presidential election is close at hand and I hope the Northern people are ready to go to the polls and give their support to the Administration and to the Army. I hope they will not get work kneed nor be lead astray by "little Mack's" smooth protestations of "War to the Knife." Let them think what kind of men support him and then give one more push at the wheel by voting for old Abe and with his reelection we may soon look for a termination of our troubles. I consider this the most momentous period of our Nation's history. Let no one falter and all may be well.

Many thanks for the Hauls. I will try and write often. My love to all the neighbors.

Write soon and tell me all the news
and all about the Oram Goodwins

I remain
Very Affectionately
Your Son
Chas A Kelley

Direct

Chas A Kelley
L. M. Dept. Res. Brigade, S. C.
Atlanta
Ga

Camp 9th Michigan Infantry
Chattanooga March 13th 1865

My Dear Father

Although I think you are owing me a letter I will try to write you a few lines to night. We are still remaining in our old Camp with but little prospect of moving. Every thing is very quiet here, and Spring has commenced for good. We had some very hard rain storms a week or two ago and the River rose some thirty feet. I should think several bridges on the Rail Road were injured and we were without mail for some time, since then the weather has been very fair and warm, like your May days. The grass has started finely and trees are budding.

My health is good. For so lazy a life one always feels half asleep such warm weather. The Regiment is doing heavy guard and fatigue duty. We are nearly full now having been receiving quite a number of recruits lately. Large numbers of troops are coming to this place and I think a Campaign in the way to Knoxville and from there toward Seichburg. Sherman seems almost lost from view now but I do not doubt he is doing good work. It is pleasing to the soldier to see the North waking up and sending along her men at this time. And I have hopes that this year will see the end. Now I think I shall be content to remain at home. after that I should like nothing better.

thons to take the farm off your hands and do
the best I can and I am glad you are willing
for me to do so. My present position is an easy
one having laid the musket aside. I am mounting
in the morning and Dress Parade in the evening with
some writing in the day time. My pay \$26. dollars
per month rations and clothing. We have had no pay
from August and it runs us hard. Uncle Sam is
slow but sure I guess. The boys are all well.
seems to me they are having quite lively times up
there. Slander "in the rampage" just as of old. So
Jimmy Murray has married my "Boysish love". Carrie
well I wish him much happiness all getting the
start of me. Extend my compliments to Mr
& Mrs Conely (Senior & Junior) I hope you will write
very soon. Good Bye

Your Affectionate Son
Charles A. Bell

Camp 9th Mich Infly Vols
Nashville Tenn April 3^d 1865

Dear Father

I should have written before but you see we have been moving not to the front exactly but to the rear. We are now in Barracks just in the outskirts of the City and I think permanently here for just as long as we remain in the service. We are very comfortably situated. our Barracks are commodious and every thing a soldier could desire. The duty of the Regiment is to guard the Military Prison. Our Regiment is now very large being over 1000 men we are only pinched in regard to money and we have pay due us from the first of last October and are hoping to get it in good time. we need money very much for one must dress better here and live better also. The weather is very fine warm and delightful - like June in Michigan. Today has been an eventful day here and every body is celebrating. We have news of the fall of Richmond and the capture of Genl Lee and many prisoners. This is great news indeed. Nearly four years have passed since the first gun was fired upon the Star of the West in Charleston harbor now vengeance is ours. Before this reaches you we shall undoubtedly hear much more good news. I shall look for a speedy termination of the war now and I hope we may be allowed to return to our homes. And I believe it will be the policy of the Govt to discharge the Army as soon as possible.

Gov Brownlow has also been inaugurated here to day. The
 Legislature, ^{Convened and civil law} restored

One hundred guns were fired from all the Ports to day at noon
 in honor of the victories. Flags were unfurled and Bands
 played and every body was happy.

My health is good and I enjoy life as well as most of folks I
 know. I hear that all the boys are enlisting in Brighton, to
 day. I am afraid to do any service. People seem to be alive yet
 if the advertisement in the Haverill Paper is true in regard to
 "Whereas my wife Emma" &c rather a scandalous affair I should
 think. I have seen Ben Clark several times, he is Sergeant
 in the 11th and is doing well. They are at Chattanooga.

I have heard quite a piece of scandal in regard to Jenny Murray
 and wife - true I suppose. I hope your health continues good
 both of you and that you will not try to do much on the farm
 this summer. Let it lie idle it won't hurt it. Give my
 Compliments to all the neighbors. I hope you will write
 very soon and I will write as often as I can. My hams
 of pork will soon be over and then I will have plenty of time
 for letter writing. Hoping to hear from you soon I remain
 Your Affectionate Son
 Charles A. Bell

Direct to Nashville
 instead of Chattanooga